



SEVENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

American Colonization Society,

WITH THE

MINUTES

OF THE

ANNUAL MEETING AND OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JANUARY 15, 1895.

WASHINGTON CITY :
COLONIZATION BUILDING, 150 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.
1895.

JUDD & DETWEILER, PRINTERS.

THE SEVENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

PRESENT POLICY OF THE SOCIETY.

1. Colonists aided hereafter to be selected with special reference to the needs of Liberia, and to be located with more care and to better advantage to themselves.

2. Funds held in trust for education to be applied in ways to aid and stimulate the Liberian government to more energetic action in establishing and fostering an efficient system of public schools rather than in merely supporting independent schools.

3. The Society to make special effort to collect and diffuse more full and reliable information about Liberia and Africa, and, as a bureau of information, to make itself practically useful both to Liberia and the Negroes in the United States desiring to emigrate there.

4. The Society to promote in every possible way the establishment of more direct, frequent, and quicker communication between the United States and Liberia.

5. The chief end of the work of the Society to be in the line of enabling and stimulating Liberia to depend less and less upon others and more and more upon herself.

APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE.

That the desire among the Negroes of the United States to emigrate to Liberia is not diminishing is abundantly evidenced by the letters received daily at the office of this Society from all sections of the country. These applications for information and assistance are from single individuals, single families, and parties varying in numbers from ten or twenty up to four or five thousand.

Many of these applicants for aid cannot read or write, some have a very imperfect knowledge of these rudiments of an educa-

tion, and most of them are without the means to pay the necessary cost of emigration and establishment in a primitive country.

These expenses include, first, the cost of traveling from the place of residence to New York, second, the cost of a passage by steamers from New York by way of Liverpool to Liberia, and, third, support in Liberia while becoming acclimated, clearing up the twenty-five acres of wild land which the Government of Liberia will give each head of a family, and getting settled on this little farm.

No direct regular communication between this country and Liberia or the West Coast of Africa has been opened yet, and hence the only route available at present is by the regular steamship lines from New York to Liverpool, and from thence by British steamers to the West Coast of Africa. Steamers leave New York twice each month of the year, making close connection at Liverpool with the British West African steamers touching at the ports of Liberia.

The cost of a through steerage passage from New York via Liverpool to Liberia is from \$65 to \$75 for an adult and half price for a child under twelve years of age. As the distance by this route from New York to Liberia is about 6,365 miles, while a direct route from the United States would be only about half that distance, the inconvenience and increased expense and time involved in the present facilities for emigration will readily be seen. To pay all the expenses of emigration—traveling to New York, through passage by steamers from New York to Liberia, support in Liberia while becoming acclimated and getting settled—requires at least \$300 for each adult and half that amount for each child under twelve years of age.

While there is limited room and employment in Liberia for good mechanics, carpenters, shoemakers, etc., the chief and most reliable occupation is cultivating the soil and raising coffee for an income in money. Young men of intelligence, good character, resolute purpose, industrious habits, and race love and pride are the men to succeed there. To such men only this Society, to the extent of its resources, gives pecuniary assistance.

EMIGRATION.

During the past year this Society has assisted six emigrants: Mr. R. A. Jackson, aged 36 years, teacher and farmer; Mrs. R.

A. Jackson, his wife, aged 35 years, and 2 children, boys, aged 8 and 5 years, respectively, from Hot Springs, Arkansas, April 18, 1894; Mr. R. A. Wright, aged 27 years, teacher, lawyer, and farmer, and Mrs. R. A. Wright, his wife, aged 28 years, from Summertown, Georgia, November 24, 1894. In each of these cases the Society furnished only a passage by steamer from New York by way of Liverpool, the emigrants paying their own expenses to New York and providing for themselves after their arrival in Liberia.

The Society has definite information of 51 emigrants who have gone from this country to Liberia during the past year and wholly paid their own way. Others have probably gone who have not been noticed, and a large number have corresponded with the Society who are now making arrangements to emigrate during the coming year, paying the whole or the greater part of their expenses.

The American Colonization Society was organized seventy-eight years ago, and four years thereafter sent out its first party of colonists; each year since it has sent out emigrants to Liberia. Those reported for the past year make a total of 16,424, exclusive of 5,722 recaptured Africans which it enabled the Government of the United States to settle in Liberia, or a grand total of 22,146 persons whom the Society has assisted in finding homes in Liberia.

BUREAU OF INFORMATION.

During the past year more than a thousand letters have been received at the office of this Society from Negroes in all sections of the country anxiously seeking information about Liberia and the way and means of emigrating. In reply to each of these letters the best information available has been furnished.

The proper functions of the Society today differ greatly from those of its earlier history. Then it was largely a question of how to make tolerable the condition of a limited number of Negroes made free and stranded in the midst of a hostile environment of slavery.

Africa was a dark continent, its marvelous resources, even its physical features, and its habitability were all unknown. Today the Negro in the United States is a freeman and a citizen, with equal rights under the Constitution and laws of the land. Africa

has been explored from north to south and from east to west, and European nations are alert and rivaling one another in their efforts to get possession of this the last of the continents.

An intelligent and adequate discussion of Liberian questions at this time, therefore, must be so broadened as to include the entire problem of the future of the Negro race and the great continent of Africa.

This Society has published and distributed 3,000 Bulletins during the past year, in which an attempt has been made to compass this broad field, and at the same time to give all the reliable information about Liberia that could be obtained. An effort has been made to set forth the importance to the United States of having a share in the great commerce with Africa now being so rapidly developed, as it is largely through commercial interests that we must hope to realize better facilities for emigration and the further colonization and building up of Liberia.

From the favorable opinions expressed by intelligent and thoughtful men, and from the fact that many of the articles appearing in these Bulletins have been widely copied and read in newspapers published by Negroes in the United States, we feel warranted in stating that an essential and valuable educational work has been done through this instrumentality.

EDUCATIONAL WORK.

In 1881 Miss Margaretta Scott began to found an industrial mission school in Liberia under the auspices of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, from whose membership the means for carrying out the work were largely obtained. She selected an elevated, healthful, and beautiful site in Grand Bassa county, about thirteen miles up the St. John's river and two miles back from its right bank. The Government of Liberia made a grant of 200 acres of most desirable land for this purpose, the place was named Beulah, the school was christened All Saints Hall, and, under the laws of the State of Maryland, it was incorporated with an American Board of Trustees.

The enterprise appears to have been prosecuted with great zeal, but not the wisest judgment, for ten or more years, during which time some twenty or thirty thousand dollars was expended, when, owing to some discouragements and the failure of her health, Miss Scott abandoned the field.

Since that time nothing has been done at Beulah, and All Saints Hall now consists of a magnificent site of 200 acres of land in a locality where there is the most urgent demand and splendid opportunity for religious and industrial training, the stone foundations of a very large building, some material for the superstructure sent out from this country, if it has not been destroyed or disappeared, and a fund of about \$3,300 in the hands of the trustees.

The Board of Trustees of All Saints Hall proposed to transfer its trust to this Society, and the proposition was accepted by the Executive Committee. The proper legal proceedings to effect the transfer were duly instituted in a circuit court of Baltimore, and an order of said court was made substituting and appointing this Society the trustee of said corporation. The papers, funds, and other properties of the corporation have been turned over to the Treasurer of this Society.

Immediately upon the acceptance of this trust the Executive Committee instructed our agent in Liberia to visit Beulah, thoroughly investigate the present condition of affairs there and the outlook for reëstablishing a school for religious and industrial training, and make a full report. As soon as this report is received the committee will address itself to the task of executing its trust in the most effective way.

The addition of this fund to those before held in trust for educational purposes in Liberia make the total amount so held by this Society about \$20,000.

The Hall School, at Harper, Cape Palmas, of whose fund this Society is the custodian, was disturbed for a time by a war with the Greboes, but nevertheless it has been in efficient operation the greater portion of the past year. The last report showed an enrollment of about 100 different pupils during the year and an average attendance of about 50 pupils. At the date of the report there were on the roll 16 pupils of native African or heathen parentage. The condition of the school, as reported, was on the whole quite satisfactory.

Since the date of our last Annual Report, Mr. Stevens, our agent, after caring for emigrants on their arrival and recent settlers, has given the most of his time and attention to educational work. He has visited all the public common schools of

the country and made a thorough investigation of their condition, including the character of the buildings, furniture, and appliances, text-books, regularity of attendance, qualifications of teachers, and the interest in the schools manifested by the people generally. The reports received from him have furnished the Executive Committee with most valuable information, and a summary was published in Bulletin No. 4. He made practicable recommendations for supplying urgent needs which met with hearty approval. He proposed to remove the great impediment to the usefulness of these schools arising from the frequent inability to obtain proper text-books in Liberia, the unsuitable character of many of those used, and their general want of uniformity, even in the same class of pupils, by acting as custodian for the sale, at actual cost prices, of suitable books which were to be sent to him by this Society. This recommendation was approved, and the first shipment of school books and appliances has been made. It appears from Mr. Stevens' report that the prices of these articles, when they could be purchased at all in Liberia, have been extravagantly high; but under the arrangement now made they will be sold there at even lower rates than obtain in the retail trade in this country.

There is no system of local taxation in Liberia, and there is not the local sense of responsibility for these schools, nor the interest in their well-being which is desirable.

It is proposed to continue Mr. Stevens in his present line of most useful work, and a part of his duty will be to hold neighborhood meetings of parents and citizens, awaken a deeper interest in behalf of their schools, and point out ways and means by which the people in each school district can supplement the work now done by the General Government.

Mr. Stevens found only one school-house in the country erected expressly for a public school; that was at Arthington. In other places the schools occupied such quarters as could be rented, and they were generally far from being well adapted to the purpose. He will endeavor to stimulate the people to build plain, suitable school-houses at convenient sites, and to furnish them with better accommodations and appliances. He will also endeavor to improve the methods of instruction, introducing the elements of industrial training, and, in short, perform the duties of general superintendent of common schools.

THE RECENT FRENCH TREATY.

Disappointing the hope and expectations expressed in our last Annual Report, the Liberian government yielded to the pressure of superior aggressive power and ratified the treaty ceding to France all that portion of her territory, including about seventy-five miles of seacoast, between the Cavally and San Pedro rivers. By the same treaty her eastern or hinterland boundary was fixed, which hitherto had been indefinite, as between Liberia and the native tribes of the interior.

France desired to have control of the Cavally river, as it afforded an outlet and convenient highway to her interior possessions about the headwaters of the River Niger, and she claimed to cede more interior territory to Liberia than she had taken from her on the seacoast at the southeast. This claim does not appear to have been well founded. Apparently Liberia already had a much better title to the territory which France assumed to cede to her than France had herself.

These hinterlands had been at least within the "sphere of influence" of Liberia, and her citizens had been engaged in trade and commerce with the natives occupying them for more than half a century. As far back as 1868 Mr. Benjamin Anderson, a Liberian civil engineer, had made a scientific exploration into the interior, extending a considerable distance beyond the boundary fixed by the recent treaty. It is evident, therefore, that Liberia ratified the treaty under the pressure of "might," which she had not the physical power to resist.

It can be said, however, that Liberia now has all the territory that she is able to administer at present, and, judging from past history, it is hardly probable that France will colonize the territory bordering on Liberia or maintain "effective occupation" of the same for a long series of years. If Liberia proves herself able to develop and maintain a government that shall command the respect of other nations it is more than probable that in the course of events not far distant she will get all the territory on the West Coast of Africa and extending back into the interior that may be required for the expansion of a great Negro nationality.

LIBERIA PROGRESSING.

During the last twenty years Liberia has received but little assistance from this Society or from any other outside source,

and meanwhile it has sometimes been said that the little Republic, if not actually retrograding, at least has been making no progress. Our more recent advices do not sustain this view. They indicate that the withdrawal of outside support has taught the Liberians the necessity for greater self-dependence and self-effort, and they have improved to some extent the opportunity for learning and practicing lessons so indispensable to their future prosperity.

Prior to the period alluded to most of the money that reached the country came from this and other benevolent societies and from trading and trafficking with the natives of the hinterlands. The rich agricultural resources of the country were largely overlooked or neglected. In recent years a noticeable change has been taking place, and the cultivation of coffee has made rapid strides. This agricultural industry requires but little capital, no expensive machinery, and the product is easily transported and always brings a good price in gold. It is in great demand in all the leading markets of Europe, where its superior qualities are well known, and all that can be obtained finds ready sale in this country.

In 1885 the amount of coffee shipped from all the ports of Liberia was 563,201 pounds, and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1894, the amount shipped from the port of Monrovia alone was 980,847 pounds, which at the price frequently obtained for it, 17 cents a pound, would yield \$166,743.99. A coffee tree of well-known superior variety is native to Liberia and easily cultivated, and by the intelligent and energetic development of this one of its many agricultural resources the people and the country may secure for themselves competence and independence.

Liberia is now giving more attention to the education of her youth, and is waking up to the importance of her common schools and industrial training, and taking measures to improve the former and introduce the latter.

The Government has recently purchased a much-needed gunboat, with which it is able to police the seaboard and mouths of the rivers, and thus assist in more strictly enforcing its revenue laws and maintaining its authority over native tribes not yet fully civilized. By its aid it has already put an end to a long-standing and irritating rebellion of the Greboes and effected a satisfactory treaty of peace and submission to the laws of the country.

The Government has also appointed one of its most reputable citizens Immigration Agent, to care for immigrants upon their first arrival in the country, and made other arrangements for giving them some assistance.

We quote with pleasure from a letter recently received from the Hon. G. W. Gibson, late Secretary of State of Liberia, and take occasion to suggest that this business age demands reliable statistics rather than general statements, and we hope that in future our Liberian friends will in that way inform us more fully of their condition and progress.

“Never before in the history of the Republic has the Government seen its way clear to make gold the circulating medium as is now the case. Gold is the only kind of money received at the custom-house, and is used in liquidating the expenses of the Government. The salutary effects of this step have been already felt, and have given an impetus to all of the departments of our national industries.

“The possession of one steam revenue vessel, with the expectation of a larger one at the close of the year, furnishes, I humbly submit, another step in the direction of advancement, as the enforcement of law and order on the coast and the protection of commerce are justly considered to have an important bearing upon national progress.

“The large shipment of coffee from Liberia to European ports, bringing in return necessities and comforts to meet the wants of our citizens to an extent not heretofore the case, is another evidence of progress that cannot be overlooked.

“Then, too, the extensive yearly accession to our civilized population of recruits from the aboriginal tribes around us, who, under the influence of our laws and religion, have adopted customs and habits like our own, and are now settled among us as farmers, mechanics, and traders, as well as the continuous stream of emigrants from the European colonies on the coast, who are becoming citizens and settling in the Republic, afford evidence of the growth and usefulness of Liberia.”

CONCLUSION.

England emancipated three-quarters of a million of Negro slaves in the West Indies and expended \$100,000,000 in com-

compensating their owners. The slaves were given their freedom, but nothing more.

The United States emancipated three and a half million slaves in the States, gave no compensation to their owners, but already has expended more than \$100,000,000 in educating and training these former slaves and their descendants for the duties and responsibilities of freemen. More than \$10,000,000 is being expended annually for this purpose.

The United States is the great training school for the Negro race, and it is far from the purpose of this Society to divert a dollar that will be applied in this way to its own special objects.

If an independent and prosperous Negro nationality is to occupy a portion of Africa in the future, the American Negro, with American training, will be the leading factor in its development.

This Society continues its labors, under the restrictions of its limited means, with unabated confidence in the ultimate success of the Liberian Republic. The new forces that will carry forward the grand work commenced by its philanthropic founders will be a more full and intelligent knowledge of Africa, the marvelous commercial enterprises which she invites, and the opportunities for a more independent manhood and greater material advancement which she offers to the Negro.

Fast emerging from barbarism and entering into civilization, the 200,000,000 of naked Africans must be clothed and furnished with the machinery and appliances of civilized modes of life. The cotton fabrics which are already or will soon be in demand would keep in constant whirl all the spindles in the cotton mills of the United States. Our agricultural implements, unrivaled machinery, and manufactured goods of various kinds will all find a ready market in Africa: the vessels transporting them will return laden with coffee, sugar, rice, rubber, tropical fruits, ivory, rare and valuable woods, diamonds, and the precious metals, found in such abundance there, and when a direct and favorable highway between the two continents has been opened up by commerce and a better knowledge of Africa is spread abroad, thousands of the more intelligent and enterprising Negroes in the United States will begin to set their faces toward this land of promise.

The report of the Treasurer is herewith submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Dr.	Receipts and Disbursements of the American Colonization Society, January 13 to December 31, 1894.	Cr.
Received		
Donations.....	\$625 00	\$743 73
Annuities.....	2,475 53	301 80
Interest on loans.....	1,293 45	5 00
Rents of Colonization Building.....	1,354 80	
Loans paid.....	10,500 00	423 45
All Saints Hall fund.....	2,839 40	409 85
Hall School fund.....	14 09	
		3,596 52
		483 55
		13,017 86
		19 50
		<hr/>
Disbursements.....	\$19,001 26	
Balance January 1, 1895.....	832 52	
Total.....	\$19,833 78	

The Committee on Accounts have examined the Treasurer's account from January 13 to December 31, 1894, and the vouchers for the disbursements, and find the same correct.

EDWARD T. JONES,
A. J. HENNINGTON,
W. W. GODDARD,
J. ORMOND WILSON.

MINUTES OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

COLONIZATION ROOMS, *January 15, 1895.*

The annual meeting of the American Colonization Society was held today at 1 o'clock p. m., in the rooms of the Society, 450 Pennsylvania avenue northwest.

President Potter presided.

Mr. J. Ormond Wilson was appointed Secretary.

The minutes of the annual meeting, January 16, 1894, were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Arthur M. Burton, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the Society for the following officers to serve for the ensuing year, and the Secretary accordingly cast the ballot :

President :

1892 RIGHT REV. HENRY C. POTTER, D. D.

Vice-Presidents :

1851 Rev. Robert Ryland, D. D., Ky.	1884 Rev. Bishop E. G. Andrews, D. D., N. Y.
1850 Hon. Frederick P. Stanton, Va.	1881 Prof. E. W. Blyden, LL. D., Liberia.
1860 Hon. James R. Doolittle, Wis.	1886 Hon. Alexander B. Hagner, D. C.
1867 Mr. Samuel A. Crozer, Pa.	1887 Hon. Robert S. Green, N. J.
1870 Mr. Robert Arthington, England.	1888 Hon. William Strong, D. C.
1871 Rev. Bishop R. S. Foster, D. D., Mass.	1888 Rev. J. Aspinwall Hodge, D. D., Ct.
1875 Rt. Rev. M. A. DeW. Howe, D. D., Pa.	1888 Mr. Arthur M. Burton, Pa.
1876 Mr. Samuel K. Wilson, N. J.	1891 Rev. Leighton Parks, Mass.
1876 Rev. Samuel E. Appleton, D. D., Pa.	1892 Rev. Edward W. Appleton, D. D., Pa.
1876 Rev. H. M. Turner, D. D., LL. D., Ga.	1892 Rev. William A. Bartlett, D. D., D. C.
1877 Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D., Pa.	1892 Mr. Osmun Latrobe, Md.
1878 Hon. Richard W. Thompson, Ind.	1893 Hon. J. C. Bancroft Davis, D. C.
1878 Adm. Robt W. Shufeldt, U. S. N., D. C.	1893 Rt. Rev. Thos. U. Dudley, D. D., Ky.
1881 Rev. Bishop H. W. Warren, D. D., Col.	1895 Hon. John T. Morgan, Ala.
1882 Mr. Henry G. Marquand, N. Y.	1895 Mr. Robert B. Davidson, Pa.
1884 Rev. George D. Boardman, D. D., Pa.	1895 Mr. Isaac T. Smith, N. Y.

On motion of the Rev. George W. Samson D. D., it was—

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to incorporate the American Colonization Society under the general incorporation laws of the District of Columbia, and to provide in the charter for its holding funds as a trustee for educational and other purposes, and to make such other provisions for the Society as may be deemed necessary.

On motion of Mr. Burton, it was—

Resolved, That the action of the Executive Committee, at a stated meeting held December 6, 1894, accepting on behalf of the American Colonization Society the trusteeship of "The Trustees of All Saints Hall of West Africa, of Baltimore City," conferred upon this Society by decree of the circuit court No. 2 of Baltimore city, as stated in the report of Reginald Fendall, Treasurer, that day submitted, is hereby approved and duly confirmed.

The Society then took a recess until 7.30 p. m., when the public exercises of the anniversary were to commence in the First Presbyterian Church, Four-and-a half street between C and D streets northwest.

The Society reconvened in the First Presbyterian Church at 7.30 o'clock p. m.

In the absence of President Potter, who unexpectedly had been called back to New York, the Rev. Thomas G. Addison, D. D., presided.

The order of exercises was as follows :

1. Invocation by the Rev. A. J. Huntington, D. D.
2. Reading the annual report by Secretary Wilson.
3. Address by the Hon. John T. Morgan, of the United States Senate.

Mr. George Forbes offered the following, which, after remarks by the Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., and Mr. Gilbert Emley, was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the American Colonization Society be extended to the Hon. John T. Morgan for his very able and eloquent address, to which we have just listened with much pleasure and profit, and also that our thanks be extended to the pastor and board of trustees of the First Presbyterian Church and to the citizens of Washington for the interest which they have manifested in this meeting.

The audience was dismissed with the benediction by the Rev. Dr. Addison.

Adjourned.

J. ORMOND WILSON,
Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

WASHINGTON, D. C. *January 15, 1895.*

The Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society met today at 12 o'clock m., in the rooms of the Society, No. 450 Pennsylvania avenue northwest, Washington, D. C.

President Potter presided, and Mr. J. Ormond Wilson was appointed Secretary.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. George W. Samson, D. D.

The Rev. George W. Samson, D. D., Mr. G. W. S. Hall, and Mr. Gilbert Emley were appointed a Committee on Credentials, and the committee reported the following-named Delegates appointed for the year 1895:

Maryland Colonization Society.—Mr. G. W. S. Hall, Mr. Edward T. Jones, Mr. Richard J. Du Val, Mr. George Forbes.

Pennsylvania Colonization Society.—Mr. Arthur Burton, Mr. Gilbert Emley.

The following Directors were stated to be in attendance:

Executive Committee.—Rev. Thomas G. Addison, D. D., Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., Dr. William W. Godding, Rev. A. J. Huntington, D. D., and Mr. J. Ormond Wilson.

Life Directors.—The Right Rev. H. C. Potter, D. D., of New York, and the Rev. George W. Samson, D. D., of New York.

Whereupon, on motion—

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Credentials be accepted and approved, and the gentlemen named be received as members of the Board.

On motion—

The Rev. G. W. Samson, D. D., and the Hon. Isaac T. Smith were received as a committee to represent the New York State Society, and invited, as visitors, to take seats with the Board.

The Chair appointed the standing committees, as follows:

Committee on Education and Foreign Relations.—Rev. Dr. Huntington, Mr. Emley, and Mr. Du Val.

Committee on Accounts and Finance.—Mr. Jones, Rev. Dr. Huntington, Dr. Godding, and Mr. Wilson.

Committee on Auxiliary Societies and Agencies.—Rev. Dr. Samson, Rev. Dr. Sunderland, and Mr. Forbes.

Committee on Emigration.—Mr. Burton, Rev. Dr. Addison, and Mr. Hall.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Samson—

Mr. Smith was added to the Committee on Foreign Relations and invited to give the other members the benefit of his knowledge of the subjects to be considered by that committee.

On motion—

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to nominate the Executive Committee, Secretary, and Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The Rev. Dr. Samson, Mr. Hall, and Mr. Emley were appointed the committee.

The Secretary presented and read the Seventy-eighth Annual Report of the American Colonization Society.

The report of the Treasurer, showing his receipts and disbursements for the past year, with the certificate of audit; also a statement of the property of the Society were presented.

Whereupon, on motion, it was—

Resolved, That the Annual Report and the Treasurer's report just read, with accompanying papers, be accepted, and that so much of them as relates to foreign relations, finance, auxiliary societies, agencies, accounts, emigration, and education be referred to the several standing committees in charge of those subjects respectively.

On motion—

The Board took a recess to give the members an opportunity to attend the Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society.

The Board reconvened at 3 o'clock p. m.

The Rev. Dr. Samson, chairman of the Committee to Nominate an Executive Committee, Secretary, and Treasurer, made the following report, which was adopted unanimously:

The Executive Committee.—Mr. Reginald Fendall, Rev. Thomas G. Addison, D. D., Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., Judge Charles

C. Nott, Dr. William W. Godding, Rev. A. J. Huntington, D. D., and Mr. J. Ormond Wilson.

Secretary.—Mr. J. Ormond Wilson.

Treasurer.—Mr. Reginald Fendall.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Addison, it was—

Resolved, That the services of Mr. Henry T. Buell, as agent of the Society, be continued.

Mr. Jones, chairman of the Standing Committee on Accounts and Finance, presented and read the following report, and it was, on motion, approved :

“The Standing Committee on Accounts and Finance respectfully report that they have examined the Treasurer’s accounts for the period from January 13 to December 31, 1894, and the vouchers for the disbursements, and find the same correct, and that they have examined the evidences of property belonging to the Society for its own use and in trust, and find that they agree with the statement of the Treasurer.”

The Rev. Dr. Samson, chairman of the Committee on Auxiliary Societies and Agencies, and also chairman of a special committee appointed at the last Annual Meeting “to examine the Constitution of this Society and report such amendments as said committee may consider advisable,” made the following report, which was adopted :

The Committee on Auxiliary or State Societies and their relation to the American Society would report that throughout the entire year the subject has been a matter of correspondence, both with auxiliaries and the member of the Executive Committee charged with the duty of obtaining a new charter from the United States Government and with consequent modifications of the present Constitution. The committee, as the result of this conference, recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the two following provisions for the new Constitution are commended to the consideration of the Executive Committee :

First. That the American Colonization Society, in the same manner as the State Societies, be independent in its internal organization, especially in the selection of its Executive Committee, its Secretary, and Treasurer.

Second. That the appropriation of one thousand dollars by any State Society to educational, industrial, or any other general objects important to Liberian interests entitle said Society to representation by a delegate, the number of such delegates being determined by the amount of such appropriations.

The Rev. Dr. Huntington, chairman of the Committee on Education and Foreign Relations, read the following report, which was adopted :

The vast sums of money which within the past few years have been expended by some of the principal religious denominations of our country for the founding and for the support of institutions of learning for the young men and women of the African race, and the liberal appropriations which have been made by the legislatures of our Southern States for the maintenance of public schools for colored children and youth render it quite unnecessary for this committee in their report to urge the importance of the moral and intellectual cultivation of our Negro population, either in the United States or in Liberia ; but it seems to your committee that the only practicable question for them now to consider is, What can this Society do, and do at once, for the promotion of the cause of education in the little Republic entrusted, in some measure, to their care ?

And, first, we recommend that this Society request their agent in Liberia, Mr. Stevens, to prosecute the good work which, under the direction of the Executive Committee, he has for some time past, in connection with his other duties, been carrying on, and still further to inquire into the condition of the public schools, to assist in providing for them better text-books, and to aid in all practicable and judicious ways in rendering the system of instruction more efficient.

Again, we suggest that the Society, through its Secretary, correspond with one of the principal institutions of each of the principal religious denominations which have established schools in the Southern States for the education of colored teachers and ministers of the Gospel, and request the faculties of these seminaries to recommend to us one or more of their very best men—men of discretion and piety and of high aspirations for usefulness—who may desire to make their home in Liberia and to devote themselves, either in preaching or teaching, to the improvement of its people, in order that the Society may aid them in locating churches and Schools in that country. What that State now most needs is good and able and educated men. Such men would, with the blessing of God, render an invaluable service to that rising but still struggling Republic ; and each of these institutions to which I have referred could probably furnish immediately one such man, at least, for Liberia, and scores of such men might within a few years be secured for that most inviting field. Such emigrants as these would make the wilderness and the solitary place glad for them, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose.

Mr. Burton, chairman of the Committee on Emigration, read the following report, which was adopted :

The Committee on Emigration beg leave respectfully to report :

That during the past year there has been a greater demand than ever before on the part of the colored people of this country for the means of obtaining passage to Liberia with a view to permanent settlement in that Republic. The number of applicants to the Society for aid this year aggregates over ten thousand. Formerly there were two vessels engaged in trade between New York city and Monrovia by which transportation was had for emigrants whose passage was paid by our Society. These emigrants in general have met with great success in developing the land that has been allotted to them and are contented and happy in their new relations.

Of late years much interest in the subject has been aroused among the colored people of the United States. The visits of Rev. Bishop Taylor to Liberia and his establishment of numerous mission stations in the back country and the Congo region was followed by the visit of Rev. Bishop Turner, of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, who went to Liberia for the sole purpose of ascertaining for himself whether it was a country to which the colored people would find it to their advantage to emigrate and to develop. He returned with an affirmative answer to his inquiry, and as a consequence since then there has appeared a growing and widespread disposition among the colored people to act upon his recommendation. This has been and is now being developed in the formation of companies for the purpose of emigration and settlement of colored people in that country. These organizations have been in many case self-constituted and in all wholly independent of the American Colonization Society. The plans proposed are likely to prove abortive from inexperience and want of sufficient financial backing of the promoters, while the means of transportation to Liberia direct under the auspices of our Society have been cut off through the partial withdrawal by the firm of Yates & Porterfield of their vessels from the trade.

In this crisis what is to be done by our American Colonization Society and its supporters? What can be done when the Society is without the means with which to meet the emergency? We answer :

First. We can assure those among the colored people who are seeking to better their condition by emigrating with their families to Liberia of our sincere desire and purpose to aid them to the fullest extent of our means and opportunities.

Second. We can appeal to the Congress of the United States and the legislatures of the States where they reside to take measures by proper enactments to protect all such persons from being deluded and defrauded by the wicked schemes of irresponsible, selfish, and unprincipled men to get from them the little property which they have already secured.

Third. We can urge upon Congress and the President the propriety of encouraging the renewal of commercial intercourse with the West Coast of Africa; to give better and more frequent opportunities to the colored people to visit the land of their fathers, as an act of humanity to them, and enabling them, if they choose, to settle there and make it their permanent home, and, as an ultimate end, to build up a future trade that will prove to be immensely profitable to those of our people who will engage in it, and thus add to the prosperity of our country.

The best means of promoting the colonization and Christianization of Africa is to send to Liberia that class of emigrants who have by their industry and frugality been able in this country to acquire something more than a mere living. The recent movements that have been started to further emigration have been largely made up of this better class. We think the American Colonization Society ought to place itself at the head of these movements. What the colored man who desires to emigrate needs is honest and trustworthy guidance and leadership. If this Society can in any way through its correspondence get into touch with the leading men of the race, who are intelligent, and through them establish friendly relations with those who may be seeking for information and the facilities of quick transportation and induce them to petition Congress and the State legislatures for aid and assistance in the direction proposed, we fully believe that their earnest pleading will receive proper consideration, will encourage good feeling toward them, and obtain substantial results for the benefit of our colored fellow-citizens throughout our country.

Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Emigration be referred to the Executive Committee elected for the ensuing year, with a recommendation that the views therein expressed be carried into effect as far as this committee shall find it practicable to do so.

On motion—

Resolved, That the Annual Report of the Society be referred to the Executive Committee for publication.

Adjourned.

J. ORMOND WILSON,
Secretary.



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